

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW JUNCO FROM CALIFORNIA.

BY LEVERETT M. LOOMIS.

Junco pinosus, new species. POINT PINOS JUNCO.

SP. CHAR.—Most nearly like *J. h. thurberi*, but throat, jugulum, and fore breast slate-gray, varying to dark slate-gray, and upper portions of head and neck slate-gray, varying to blackish slate; bill averaging broader and longer.

♂ *ad.* (No. 278, museum of Leland Stanford Junior University, vicinity of Monterey, Cal., July 4, 1892; Leverett M. Loomis). Upper part of head and neck blackish slate, changing, on sides of head and neck, to slate-gray on throat, jugulum, and fore breast; this dark color being abruptly defined against the colors of the body; interscapulars and scapulars pale chestnut; rump gray, tinged with chestnut; posterior part of breast, abdomen, and lower tail-coverts white; sides faintly washed with vinaceous-buff; two outer rectrices wholly white, the third partially white, the others dark brown; wings dark brown, more or less edged with chestnut and whitish.

This type specimen is in rather worn plumage. Of three other males (all taken during the first two weeks of July) one is almost an exact counterpart of the specimen described, the other two represent a darker and lighter phase in the shade of the slate-gray of the fore-neck and breast and in the blackish slate and dark slate-gray of the upper part of the head and neck.

♀ *ad.* (No. 281, museum of Leland Stanford Junior University, vicinity of Monterey, Cal., July 4, 1892; Leverett M. Loomis). Similar to the male, though smaller, with color of anterior parts grayer, especially the throat and sides of head. The chestnut of the back is deeper than in any of the males. This is also true in the only other female I preserved. Except on the throat the second female is darker anteriorly than the palest male; the dimensions of the male, however, are considerably greater.

♂, ♀ *hornot.* (Description based upon two males and two females taken during the first fortnight of July). Above pale chestnut, more or less slightly tinged with slaty on crown, narrowly streaked with blackish, the streaks predominating on top of head; below white, tinged in a varying degree with buffish, and streaked, except medially, with dusky, thickly on breast and jugulum and more or less sparsely on throat and sides; sides of head with colors and markings of upper and lower parts variously blended; wings blackish, broadly edged on inner secondaries and greater coverts with pale chestnut; middle coverts less broadly edged and with greater coverts tipped with buffish, forming two inconspicuous bars; primaries edged with whitish, shading into the chestnut of secondaries; inner rectrices blackish, margined with pale chestnut; outer one wholly white, second chiefly white, third with or without a white spot.

DIMENSIONS OF ADULTS (in millimetres).

No	Sex	Length	Wing	Tail	Chord exp. culmen	Width upper mandible at base	Tarsus	Remarks
277	♂	152.40	73.15	68.58	11.68	5.84	19.56	Type
278	♂	147.32	71.63	63.50	10.92	5.84	20.32	
279	♂	144.78	70.36	66.04	10.67	5.84	20.32	
280	♀	152.40	72.39	67.31	10.92	5.84	20.32	Type
281	♀	144.78	67.31	66.04	10.67	5.84	18.54	
282	♀	147.32	68.58	63.50	10.67	5.33	19.56	

This Junco is distinguished at a glance from *thurberi*, which it appears to approach nearest, by the decided slate-gray aspect of the fore breast, jugulum, and throat. The palest female *thurberi* I have seen is distinctly darker than the darkest male *pinosus* of the series. The average greater length and breadth of the bill is also a prominent character when the two birds are compared. The color of the bill and the color of the eyes were not noted in the field, which is to be regretted, as additional characters might have been afforded by their determination.

I have described this new Junco provisionally as a distinct species, because the material within my reach has not shown that it intergrades with *thurberi* or any other form. The name chosen, *pinosus*, is from Point Pinos, the place of discovery, which forms the south side of the entrance of Monterey Bay. I first met with it in a pine grove on the reservation of the Point Pinos Lighthouse, June 21, 1892, my first collecting day in the locality. Subsequently I found it was a common bird, frequenting the more open places in the pine woods which largely cover the high, cold promontory of Monterey.

The fact that a Junco should be found breeding at the sea level so far south in California is very significant and in itself is enough to suggest the existence at least of a local race. It will be interesting to learn the status of the birds breeding in the Coast Range, particularly those of Santa Clara County.

Since the above was penned I have submitted the specimens described to Mr. Ridgway and he writes me: "I have examined them carefully, and have not the slightest difficulty in recognizing the marked differences presented by your birds from a series of *J. h. thurberi*. There can be no question as to their distinctness."